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*Her MAJESTIES most Gracious SPEECH to both Houses
of Parliament, on Thursday the Sixth Day of November, 1707.*

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is with all humble Thankfulness to Almighty GOD, and with entire Satisfaction to My Self, that I Meet you here in this First Parliament of *Great Britain*, not doubting but you come with hearts prepared, as Mine is, to make this Union so Prosperous, as may answer the well-grounded Hopes of all My good Subjects, and the reasonable Apprehensions of Our Enemies.

To this end, nothing is so immediately Material, as to convince, as soon as is possible, both Our Friends and Our Enemies, That the Uniting of Our Interests has not only Improved Our Abilities, but Our Resolutions also, to Prosecute this Just and Necessary War, till We obtain a Safe and Honourable Peace for Our Selves, and for Our Allies.

In so great and extensive a War as this is, many Things may be usefully undertaken, which are not fit to be communicated before-hand: The Attempt upon *Toulon* was of this Nature, and though it had not wholly its desired Effect, has nevertheless been attended with many great and obvious Advantages to the Common Cause in this Year, and has made Our Way more easie, I hope, to greater in the next.

As the *French* have gained Ground upon Us in *Spain*, so they have been wholly driven out of *Italy*, by which it is become more easie for all the Allies to joyn their Assistance next Year, for Enabling the King of *Spain* to Recover His Affairs in that Kingdom, and to Reduce the whole *Spanish* Monarchy to His Obedience.

The Weakness and ill Posture of Affairs upon the *Rhine* in the Beginning of the Year, has given an Opportunity to the *French* to make themselves stronger in all other Parts, but this Defect seems in a very promising way of being fully Remedied against next Campaign, by the Conduct and Authority of the Elector of *Hannover*, whose seasonable Acceptance of that Command has strengthened and obliged the whole Confederacy.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

THE just Application of the Supplies given Me by former Parliaments, the plain Necessity of Continuing this War, the reasonable Prospect of putting a good End to it, if We be not wanting to Our Selves, and the Honour of the First Parliament of *Great Britain*, are, I make no doubt, Sufficient Arguments to incite you to Provide the Necessary Supplies which I am obliged to desire of you for the ensuing Campaign in all Parts, and particularly for the timely Support of the King of *Spain*, and the making good Our Treaty with *Portugal*, as also for Strengthening the Confederate Army under the Command of the Duke of *Savoy*; all which Services, I don't doubt, but you will think so necessary, that they ought not to be neglected, even though they should require an Augmentation.

The Sums already expended in this War, have been very great, and they are Sufficient Proofs how well satisfied My Subjects have always been with the Ends of My Government, of which I am so sensible, as never to ask any Supplies from them, but what are absolutely necessary for the Preservation of their Religion and Liberty, and I look upon it as My great Happiness, that I have not the least Interest separate from that of all My Good Subjects.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IN a Work so great and new in its kind as that of the Union, it is impossible but that some Doubts and Difficulties must have arisen, which, however, I hope, are so far overcome, as to have defeated the Designs of those who would have made use of that Handle to foment Disturbances.

There are several Matters expressly made lyable, by the Articles of the Union, to the Consideration of the Parliament of *Great Britain*, which, together with such others as may reasonably produce those Advantages, that, with due Care, must certainly arise from that Treaty, I earnestly recommend to your serious Consideration.

On My part nothing shall be wanting to procure to My People all the Blessings which can follow from this happy Circumstance of My Reign, and to Extinguish, by all proper Means, the least Occasions of Jealousie, that either the Civil or Religious Rights of any Part of this My United Kingdom can Suffer by the Consequences of this Union.

Such a Suggestion shall never in My Time have any Foundation, how restless soever Our Enemies may be in their Endeavours and Artifices to disturb Our Peace and Happiness, those Great and Valuable Blessings cannot but be always secure to Us, if We heartily endeavour to Confirm and Improve Our present Union; I hope therefore you will suffer nothing to prevail with you to Disunite among your selves, or Abate your Zeal in Opposing the Common Enemy.

F I N I S.

6 November 1707

The Queens Speech to the
Parliament

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